

# AGPS-Pipe Pro User manual for GPS and Laser

# Advanced Geo Positioning Solutions, Inc. www.agpsinc.com

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#### Startup:

In order for the AGPS software to read the MEI mast correctly, it must be set to all positive numbers from the top down.

Press Select until the box is in Preset mode.

Raise the mast to the top extent.

Press + and – at the same time and the display should read 00.00.

Press Select until the box is in survey mode

Drive the machine to a benchmark near the laser that has an elevation to work from.

Set the blade on the ground/plank and lower the mast until you are in the center "On Grade" light.

# **AGPS-Pipe Concepts Documentation**

# Purpose of Program:

- \* To provide assistance in laying drainage pipe (or "tile") under farmer's fields. The program can calculate the elevations of the pipe and even control the "blade" in laying the pipe. Based on certain parameters (like minimum-slope, minimum-depth, optimum-depth) the program will calculate a plan of elevations where the pipe should be laid, show it to you and, and start controlling the blade. Manual overrides are allowed, of course, but are rarely needed.
- \* The calculated plan may use hundreds of "grade-breaks" since they are no longer difficult to perform.
- \* The location of the laid pipe is recorded and can be easily plotted. A report can be produced showing the length of each pass and giving totals for laterals and mains.
- \* Flagging of the far end of passes can be eliminated.
- Working at night is now practical. Curved passes are supported with no additional difficulty.
- \* If not using a laser, work can still be performed in dense fog or high wind.
- \* Users have reported up to a doubling of productivity.
- \* Trenchers, plows and wheel machines are all using the program.
- \* There is support for Pre-Ripping, i.e. the "RIP" Pass.
- \* Pre-existing surveys as partial plans are supported.

### Files Used:

Most users go to the field with no pre-loaded files.

Most of the files you work with are stored in the directory named "C:\AMW\DATA". See the icons named "Data", "Datacmd" and "Load Data From Floppy" in the "C:\AMW" folder you see upon startup. All files are text and can be viewed or edited with Notepad™, Wordpad™, and many more.

#### SVY File:

This file will contain all data points captured while laying pipe. Also, "Location Instrument" setup information and other relevant information are logged to this file. This file will be created for you and will start out empty when you create a new job. If your jobname is "MITS1", you will have a file named "MITS1.SVY". See "SAMPLE.SVY". Points from this file will be displayed on your plot window as dots.

#### DRW File:

This optional file defines a background-drawing that will be shown on the plot window along with other data. This could be a Contour map, existing tile map, etc.

You can easily build this file from a "DXF" file that comes out of most "CAD" (computer-aided-drawing) programs. The DRW file creation process is described later in this manual. If your jobname is "MITS1" you may use a DRW file named "MITS1.DRW". See "SAMPLE.DRW". CAP File:

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Will receive any data CAPtured during "SVY" Passes or "RIP" Passes. If "SVY" Passes were used, data in this file can be extracted to make a good topo map of the farmer's field. This file can be copied to another computer to transfer the information. If your jobname is "MITS1" you will have a file named "MITS1.CAP".

#### CTL File:

Is used for "Control Points" used in setting up the "Location Instrument" (usually GPS w/wo Laser). If your jobname is "MITS1" you will need a CTL file named "MITS1.CTL". This file may be automatically built for you or can be copied from "AMODEL.CTL" or any other CTL file you have. Any control points you capture while you are working will be stored here.

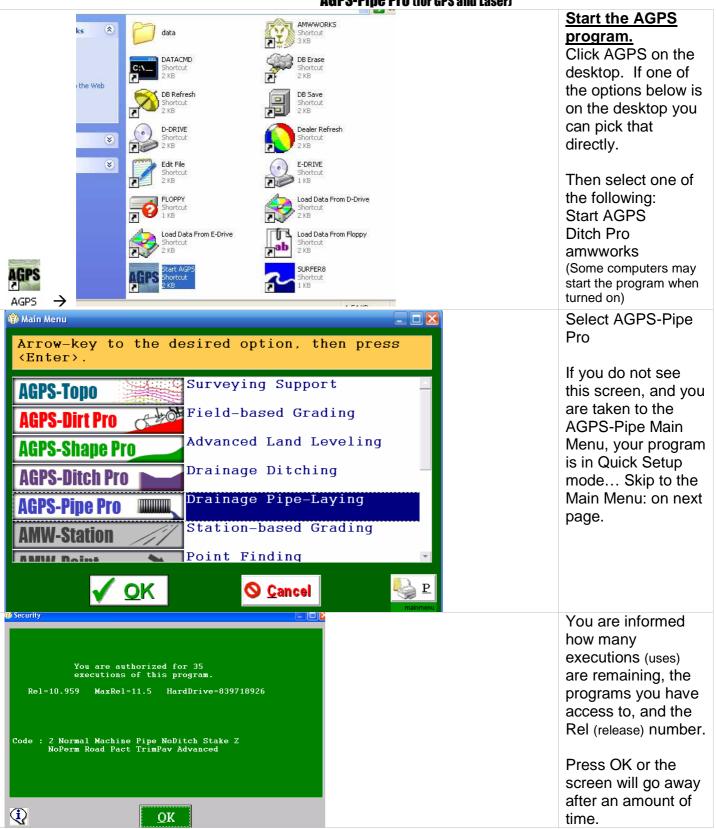
If the job has any pre-existing control points, they should be entered here. This file uses the following columns: "Name Northing(N) Easting(E) Elevation(Z) Description". Points from this file will be displayed on your plot window as small triangles. \*What is a Control Point? Sometimes called a benchmark, this point is a known world feature in which coordinates are also known. Control points are important to make your coordinates match those used earlier.

```
BackSpace -
             switch pass (SVY <-> LAY, RIP <-> LAY, PTL <-> PTL, LNR
                                                                         Program hot keys
<-> LNR)
                                                                         "Buttons" menu
PageUp
          - Move Blade Up.
PageDown - Move Blade Down.
                                                                         Using a keyboard is
ArrowUp - Half of PageUp.
ArrowDown -
            Half of PageDown.
                                                                         the quickest way to
  - show All points.
                                                                         navigate the
     show this Buttons menu.
                                                                         program. On the
  - find closest Control point.
С
                                                                         left is a list of what
D - find closest Data point.
                                                                         all the buttons do
  - show view from the East.
Ε
  - DCH Cut/Fill Offset (SubGrade) ...
F
                                                                         when at the

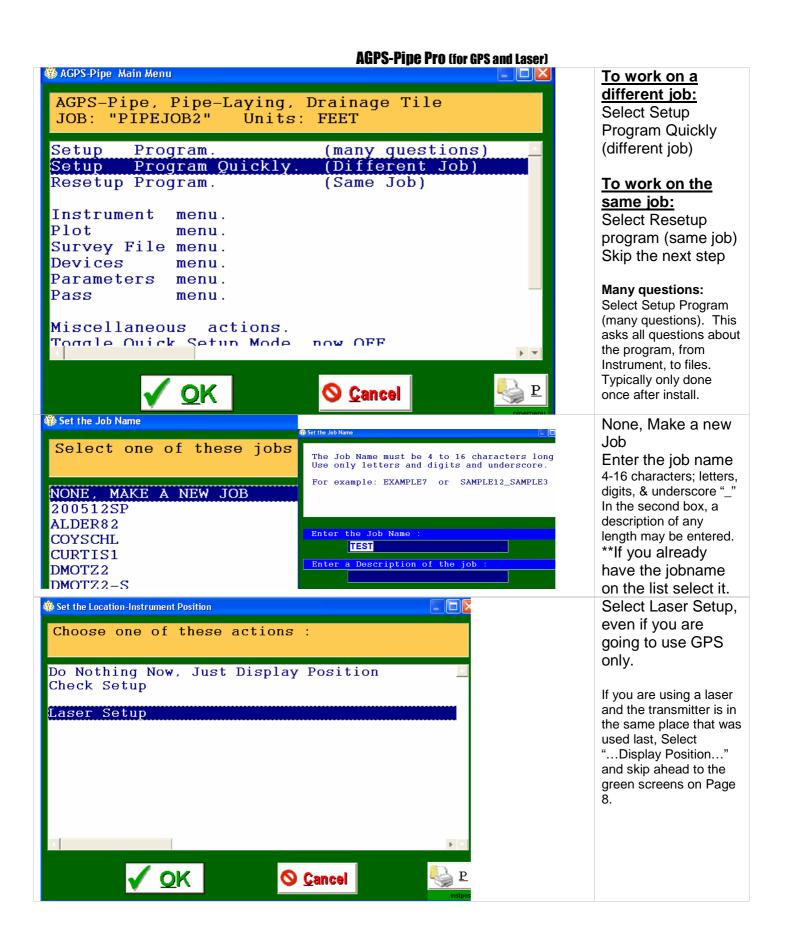
    toggle stop/Go mode.

G
                                                                         "working screen"
  - zoom In.
Т
  - marK special points ...
K
                                                                         In every menu,
  - draw Lines between points ...
T.
M - Manually capture a point ...
                                                                         arrow keys, Enter
N - show Neighborhood of current position.
                                                                         (OK), and Esc
  - zoom Out.
                                                                         (Cancel) are used.
P - Pass menu ...
                                                                         Also, pressing the
0
  - Quit this application ...
                                                                         first letter of an
R
  - specify Radius to show ...
S
  - show view from the Side.
                                                                         option will skip to
Т
  - show view from the Top.
                                                                         that option.
U
  - menU ...
7.7
  - change View.
W
  - show view from the West.
Z
  - show a 3D view looking NNE.
  - toggle blade control on/off.
0
  - set rod-length ...
1
2
  - set point-label ...
3
  - specify a 3D view ...
4
  - set the next Point Number ...
6
  - control the measuring instrument ...
7
     capture a note ...
     Display/Plot menu ...
8
  - show the Devices menu ...
  (minus) - Switch Laser Light Planes ...
= (equal) - Switch Rod-Length Offset ...
SpaceBar - toggle Auto-Capture.
Mouse Left Button Click - Click Menu.
```

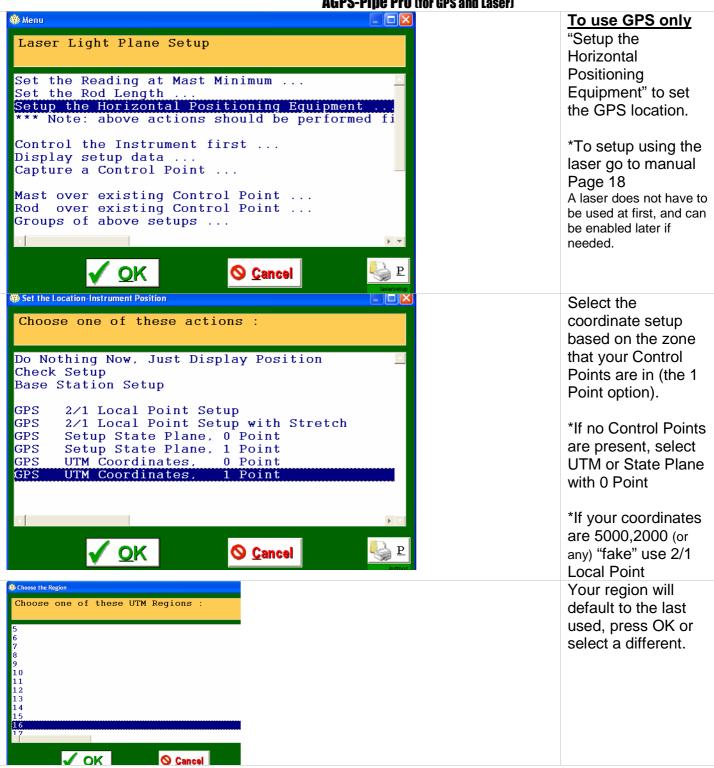
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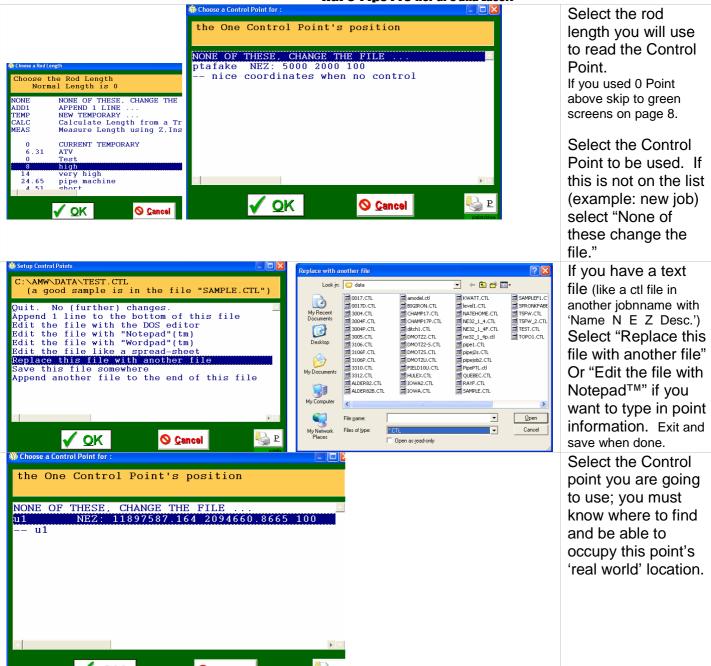


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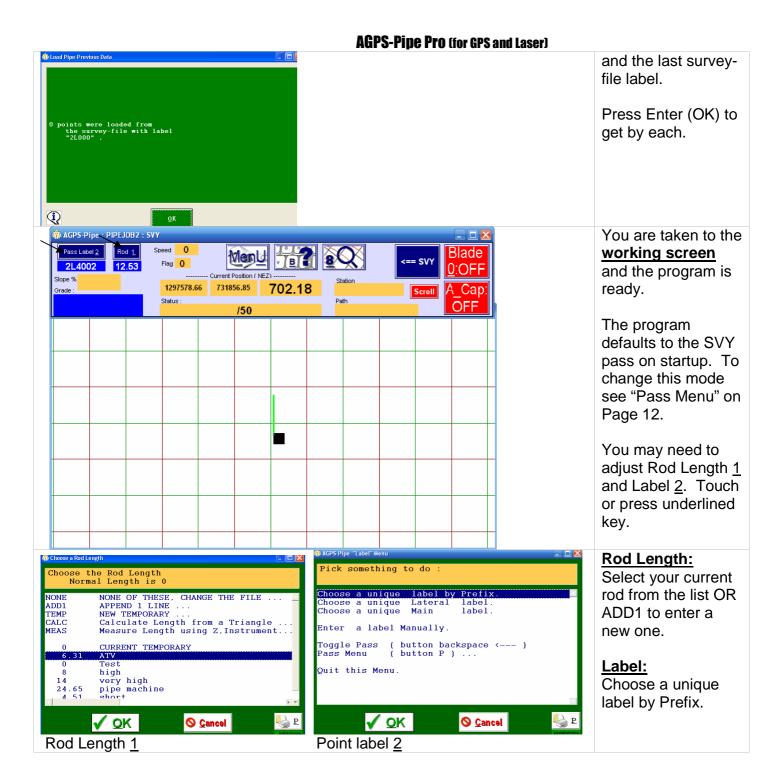




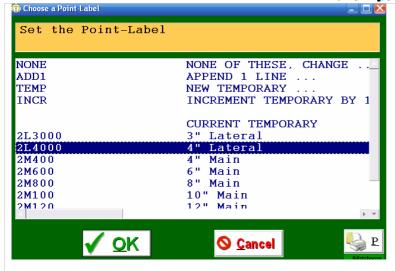
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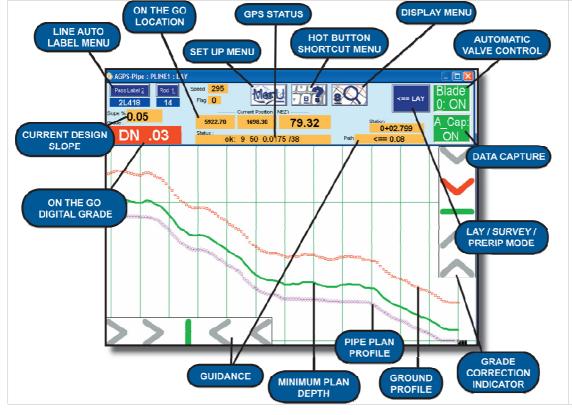
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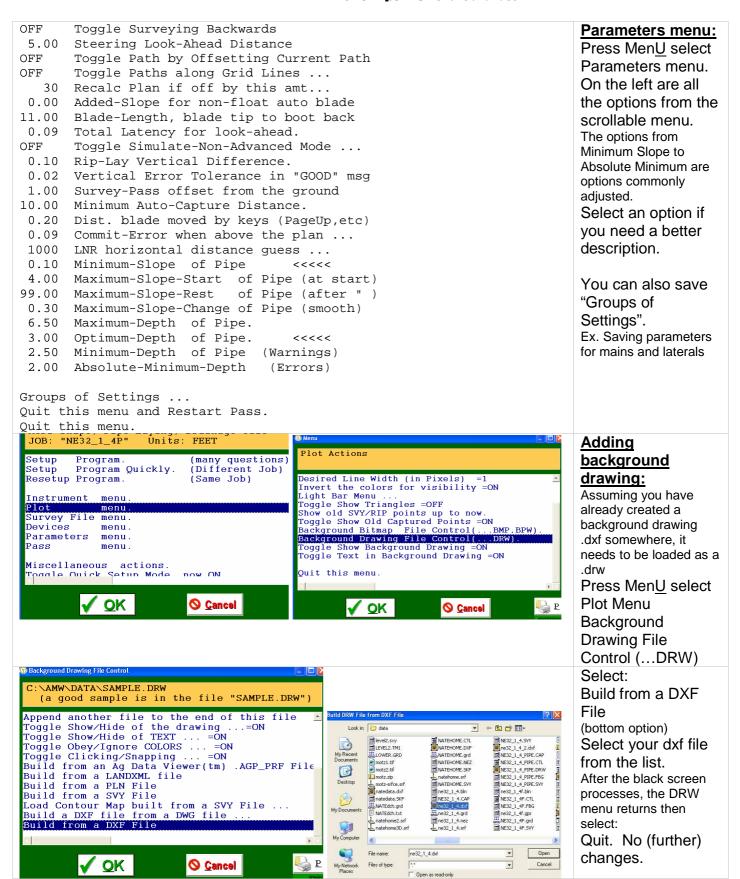
To choose a label by prefix, select one from the list. If you do not have this list, ADD1 and enter each item shown. The meaning of the label is: 2= Line M/L= Main/Lateral 000= Starting number that will increment on each pass 001, 002 ... Labels are layers in an exported dxf 2L3, 2L4... PTL users: If using "down-hill toward main" make sure you have a 2M captured!

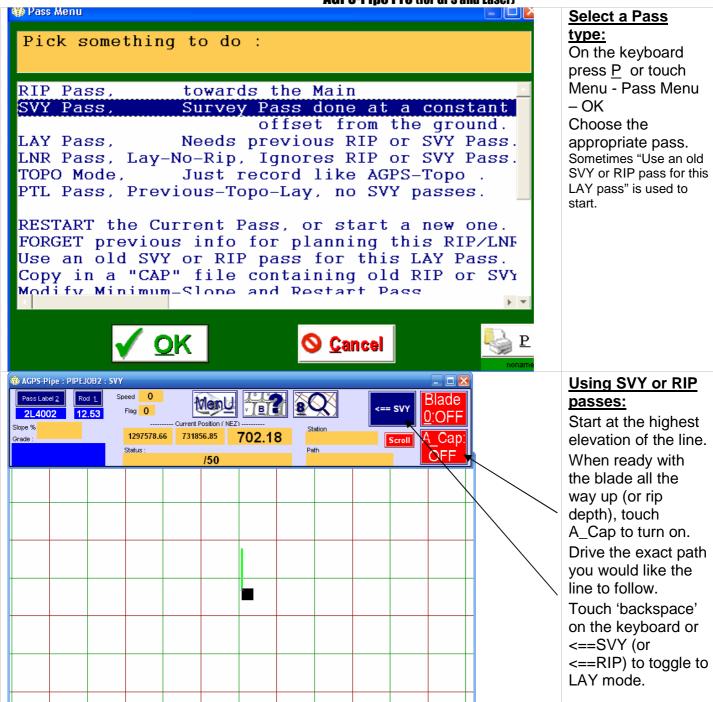
Working screen explained:

These notes show a side view with a profile generated (process described later).

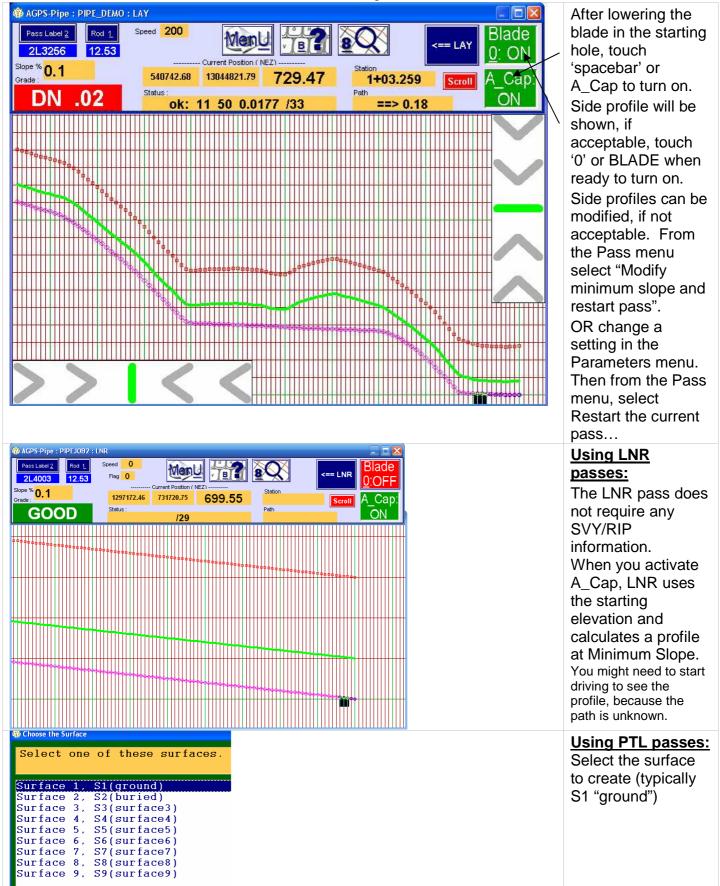


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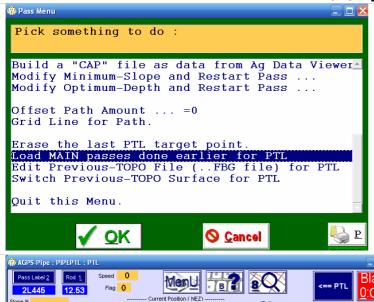
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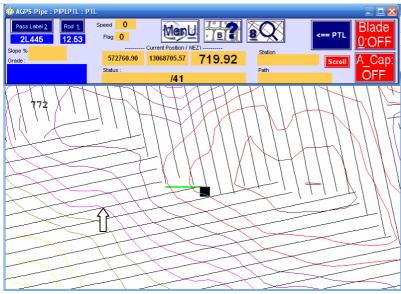


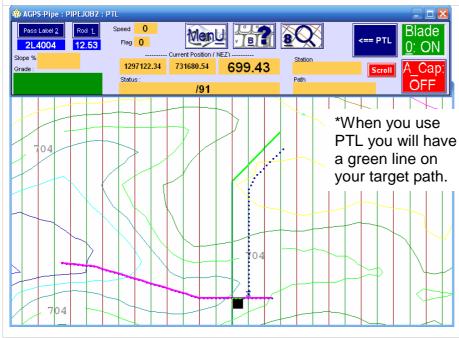
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```
Quit. No (further) changes.
                                                                                      Next you receive a
Append 1 line to the bottom of this file
                                                                                      scrollable menu
Edit the file with the DOS editor
                                                                                      asking how to make
Edit the file with "Notepad"(tm)
                                                                                     the .fbg file.
Edit the file with "Wordpad"(tm)
Edit the file like a spread-sheet
                                                                                      All options are listed
Replace this file with another file
                                                                                     to the left.
Save this file somewhere
Append another file to the end of this file
                                                                                      "Replace this file
PARAMETERS for Loading Surface Files ...
                                                                                     with another" if you
3D Visualization using Surfer8 ...
3D Visualization of the Data ...
                                                                                     have a file with: pt#
Write currently loaded points to a file ...
                                                                                     N \in Z
Build from a Survey-File
                                                                                     "Build from a
Build from a Shape .PLN file.
                                                                                      Survey-File" if you
Build a DXF file from a DWG file ...
Triangles loaded from a DXF File ...
                                                                                     have a .svy
Triangles loaded from lines in a DXF File ...
                                                                                      collected with
Points loaded from a DXF File ...
                                                                                      AGPS-Topo
Lines, Arcs & Points loaded from a DXF File ...
                                                                                      After points are
                                                                                      loaded and stored,
                                                                                     you are given the
   From the file "C:\AMW\DATA\TEST.FBG",
2283 Points were loaded.
                                                                                      details about the
2283 Points were unique.
                                                                                      points. Click OK
957.378 Is the MAXimum Elevation.
950.311 Is the MINimum Elevation.
O Had less than the allowed Elevation.
O Triangles were read directly,
O of these were bad.
(į)
                       OK
                                                                                      You will be asked if
AGPS-Pipe: PIPEJOB2: PTL
                                                                                     you are going UP-
                  Speed
                                                                        Blade
  Pass Label 2
            Rod 1
                                                                                     Hill, away from the
                    Flag 0
  2L4004
           12.53
                                                                        0: ON
                                                                                      main or Down-hill,
 Slope %
                    1297122.34 731680.54
                                       699.43
                                                                        Cap
Grade:
                                                                                     toward the main.
                    Status:
                                                   Path
                                                                        OFF
                                  /6
                                                                                      Up-Hill: Click the
                                                                                      screen on the
                                                                                      destination of your
                                                                                     line. Add a PTL
                                                                                     target (UP): either
                                                                                      "along gridline" OR
                                                                                     "along a
                                                                                     background
                                                                                      drawing" OR
                                                                                      "further away"
                                                                                      "along background line"
                                                                                      does not require you to
                                                                                      zoom out and click the
                                                                                      end of the line
                                                                                      "along gridline requires
                                                                                      you to click the end of
                                                                                      the line for distance.
```

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Down-Hill: Before doing the first pass down-hill toward a main (or if you have just installed a new main) go to Pass Menu, and pick "Load MAIN passes done earlier for PTL". This should turn the mains magenta so you know the program has identified them.

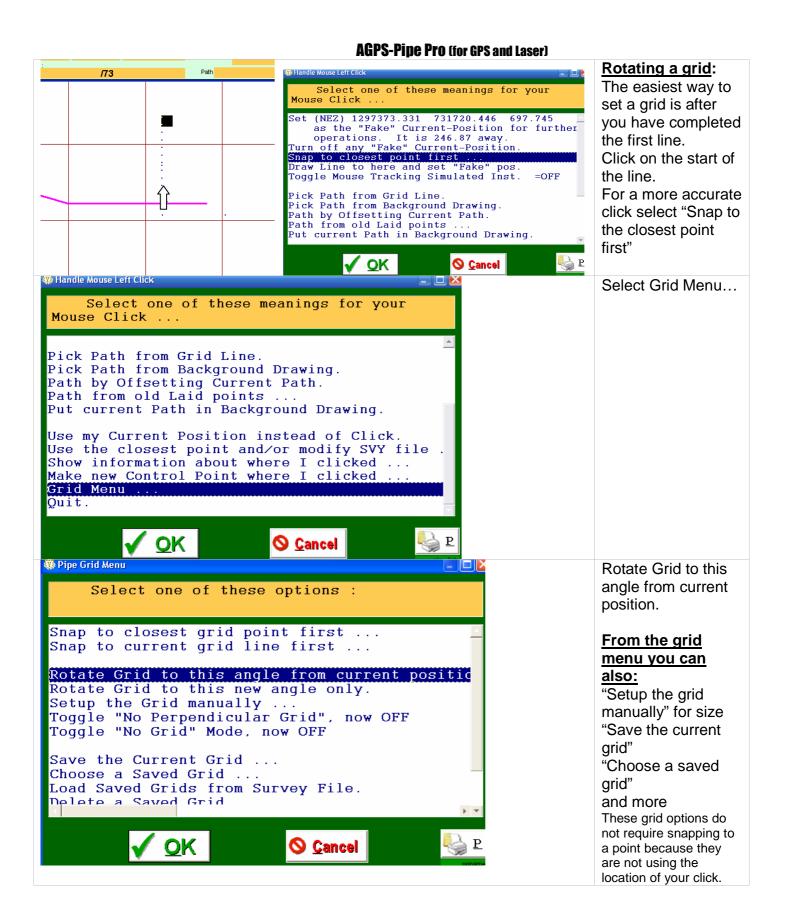
Down-hill: Click the screen on the destination of your line. Add a PTL target (DN): either "where the gridline meets the MAIN" OR "buried point here" OR "along background line".

"Where gridline meets the main" and "along background line" does not require you to zoom out and click the main, just the grid line going to it.

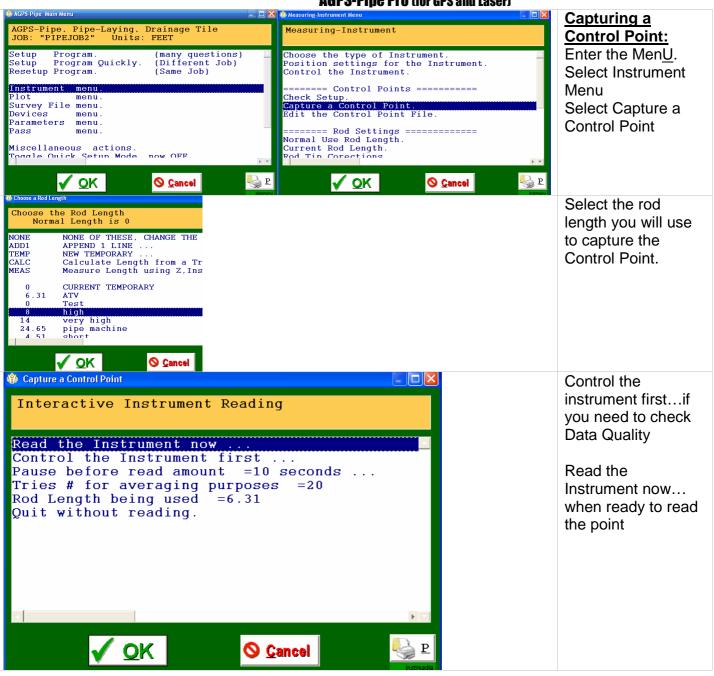
Non-straight lines:
Rather than one of
the previous UP
steps, click the
screen on the
destination of a
point on your line.
Then Add a PTL
target point (further
away). This can be
done more than
once. A step from
above is not now
required, but still may
be used.
\*\*For down, you

\*\*For down, you must select one of the DN options above.

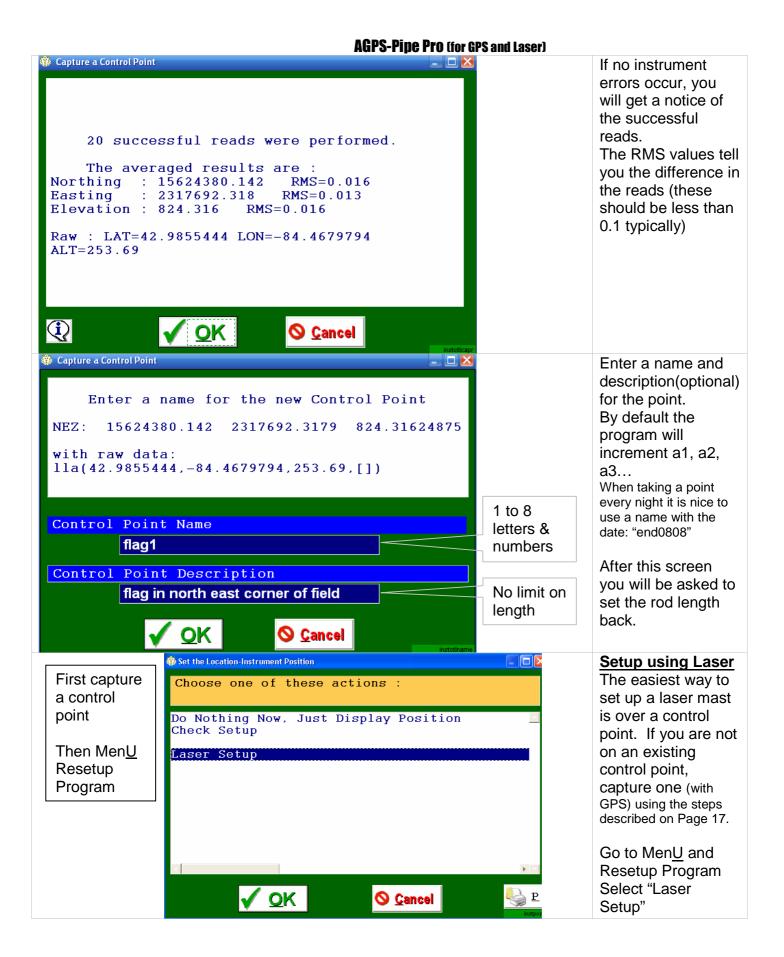
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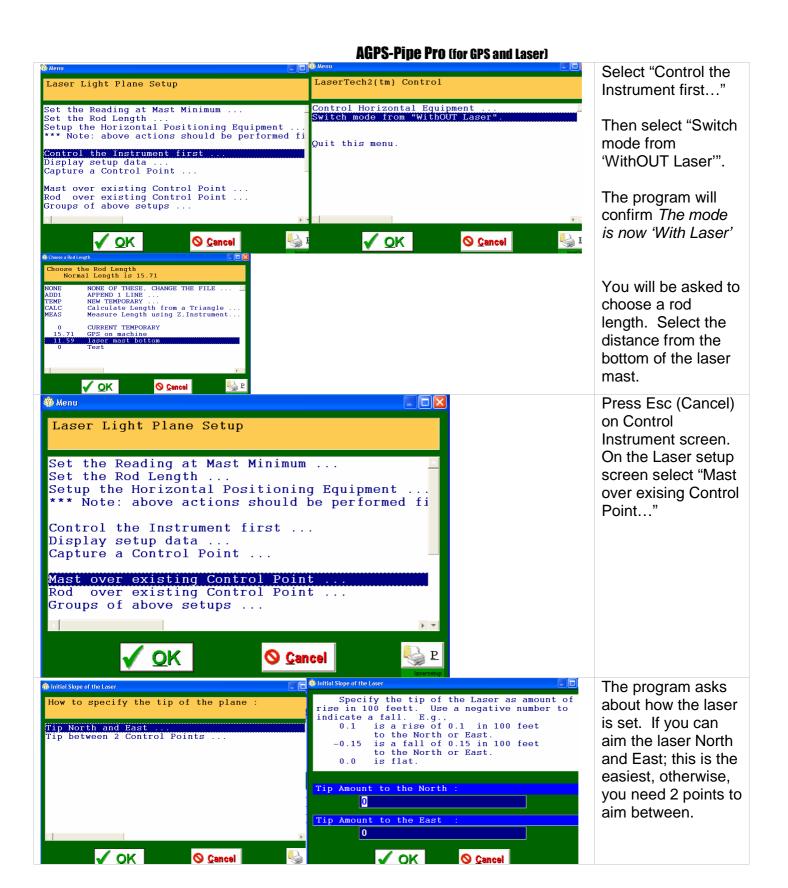




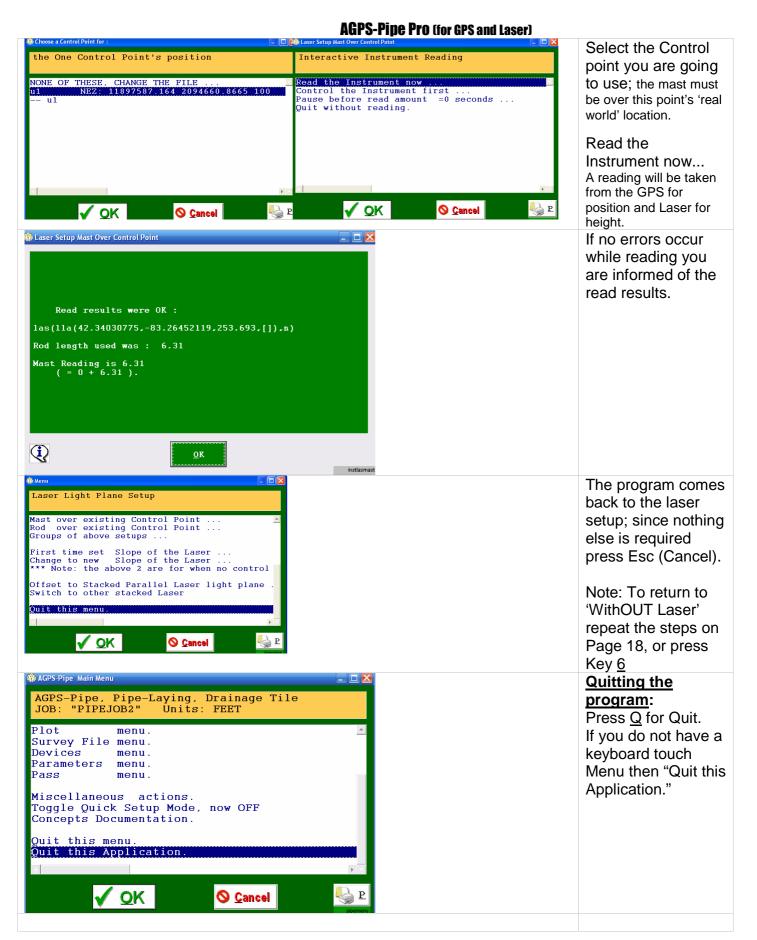
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#### **Glossary of Terms:**

A\_Cap Auto Capture: Automatically captures a data point after user set interval (typically 10 feet) has been traveled. This distance uses both horizontal and vertical measurement. Toggled ON/OFF by keyboard spacebar.

**BLADE** In the program the term BLADE refers to the automatic control of the blade. The control can be toggled by keyboard 0. There are other places in the program that blade used in a sentence will have different context. (Not available in AGPS-Topo.)

Control Sometimes called a benchmark, this point is a known world feature in which coordinates are also known. Control points are important to make your coordinates match those used earlier. point (.ctl file) See also: Local Point, State Plane, UTM

Other forms: Device Menu, External Device, Control Device, etc. The Device refers to Device interface device that operates the automatic blade control. In some cases this could be a laser input and output. (Not available in AGPS-Topo.)

Instrument Other forms: Instrument Menu, Measuring Instrument, Read Instrument, etc. The instrument

is the positional equipment. Although typically a GPS, there are many other types, and

combinations of multiple instruments.

Local Point A NEZ coordinate system that uses "fake" coordinates, meaning they are not consistent with

State Plane or UTM. An example of this is program default "ptafake 5000 2000 100". See

also: State Plane, UTM, NEZ

NEZ Abbreviation for Northing(N) Easting(E) Elevation (Z). Coordinates are always in NEZ. NEZ

coordinates are in Feet (or meters if selected) rather than Latitude Longitude and Altitude.

.nez file A file that uses the following columns: "Name Northing(N) Easting(E) Elevation(Z)

Description". (Description is optional)

Path The line (curved or straight) you wish to follow. You can set a path by touching the path you

wish to follow on the Plot. See also: Plot

Plot Other forms: Plot Menu, Plot Window, etc. The Plot is the lower screen that the field is

graphically drawn in. Any options to adjust a feature drawn here are found in the Plot Menu.

Quick setup A toggled option to automatically start the application (the one the option is toggled on) mode instead of going to the Main menu to select an application. (Available in AGPS-Pipe, AGPS-

Ditch, and AGPS-Shape) For AGPS-Dirt, see: Resetup mode

Resetup A toggled option to automatically start AGPS-Dirt and Resetup Program (same job), instead mode of going to the Main menu to select an application. *For AGPS-Pipe, AGPS-Ditch, and AGPS-*

Shape, see: Quick setup mode

Rod (length) The distance from the reading point (on the GPS antenna) to the blade or ground.

State Plane A NEZ coordinate system with zones designed for a particular US State. Every State has one

or more zones. See also: Local Point, UTM, NEZ

Station Explains the current distance from the start of the selected Path. This station number format

is 12+34.567. The equivalent in feet (or meters) would be 1234.567. See also: Path.

Status Shown on the working screen in every program to describe GPS status and other related (GPS) messages. Shows something like "ok: 9 3 1.1 /53" Where 9=satellites 3=datatype

1.1=precision and /53=read counter.

Use the table below to evaluate the data type and precision meaning for your GPS.

	RIKFixed	RIKFloat	No RTK base	Precision
GGA (Generic/Ashtech™)	4 or 3	5 or 2	1	HDOP
John Deere™	4	3=extend 5=flt.	1	HDOP
Sokkia™/NovAtel™/Beeline™	50	49/48/34/17	16	Alt. Std. Deviation
Topcon™ (Javad™ GGA)	4	5	1	HDOP
Trimble™ (GGK)	3	2	1	PDOP

Survey File (.svy)

This file will contain all data points captured. Also, "Location Instrument" setup information and other relevant information are logged to this file. Points from this file will be displayed on your plot window as dots. The Survey File Menu includes options to modify this file.

UTM A NEZ coordinate system with zones designed on Longitude lines. The program can automatically detect your UTM zone. See also: Local Point, State Plane, NEZ

AGPS-Pipe specific:

Above plan A message that shows in the top left corner of the Plot when in a LAY, LNR or PTL pass.

This means something caused the program to commit higher. When above plan, the program will use the minimum slope parameter until the plan can be resumed. See also: Pass,

Parameters Menu, Plot, LAY pass, LNR pass, PTL pass.

LAY pass A pass to calculate line grades using your parameters, then control the blade. Needs

previous RIP or SVY Pass. If you just completed one of these, the backspace key will toggle to LAY. If you did one of these earlier and would like to recall, select "Use an old SVY or RIP

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pass for this LAY pass". See also: Pass, Parameters Menu, RIP pass, SVY pass.

LNR pass Similar to LAY pass, but Lay-No-Rip, Ignores RIP or SVY Pass. LNR uses the minimum

slope parameter as the grade for the line (and blade). See also: Pass, Parameters Menu, RIP

pass, SVY pass, LAY Pass.

Parameters Allows you to set the parameters, or rules, for calculating a profile. Press Men<u>U</u> select

menu Parameters menu.

Pass Tells the program what you intend to do. See Pass Menu to select one.

PTL Previous-Topo-Lay uses an imported Topo surface instead of individual SVY passes. To

select a Path, click on the Plot window on the destination. Then the pass will show and

function like a LAY pass. See also: Pass, LAY pass, SVY pass, Path, Plot

RIP pass Pre-rip pass done at a constant depth below the ground. Also check the parameters menu

for option "RIP-LAY vertical difference". This tells the program how much below the RIP you

would like to LAY. See also: Pass, Parameters menu, LAY pass

Surface A file that shows an existing ground (or proposed tile depth). This file uses NEZ format

(.fb? file) points, (and can be easily built from a "DXF" file exported from some "CAD" program.) See also: NEZ

SVY pass Survey Pass done at a constant offset from the ground. This offset is entered in the

Parameters menu. When ready with the blade all the way up, turn on A\_Cap. Drive the

exact path you would like the line to follow. See also: Parameters Menu, Pass

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